



A Maverick's Defense of Freedom

Benjamin A. Rogge

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Benjamin A. Rogge's ability to speak and write about serious economic topics with humor, humility, and wit, but without difficult jargon, math, or diagrams, places him in a category all his own. This new collection of fifty-three essays, many of which have never before been published, gathers some of Rogge's most interesting talks and writings spanning the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s. This volume encompasses a vast array of topics including the case for individual liberty and responsibility in maintaining the free-market economy, the nature of economics, the business system, labor markets, money and inflation, and education. By organizing the volume thematically, the editor, Dwight R. Lee, has been able to highlight and place in context the many different areas of economics that compose Professor Rogge's extensive output.

Part 1: Individual Liberty, Responsibility, and the Morality of the Market

This opening section is composed mostly of Rogge's speeches describing his broad philosophy on liberty, responsibility, government, and the market, as well as their roles in maintaining a free-market economy.

Part 2: The Role of Economists

With humor and insight, Rogge discusses what economists can do and cannot do to promote a free and prosperous society.

Part 3: Education

The longest section of this volume includes Rogge's many thoughts on education, such as his ideas on the role of the student, tenure, financing higher education, economic education, and the role of the intellectual. This section includes an especially entertaining article called "Well, So You're a College Graduate: What Tricks Can You Do?"

Part 4: Microeconomics, Labor Issues, and Political Foibles

This section provides a diverse and insightful compilation of writings on government policies, discrimination, antitrust, the gold standard, and energy.

Part 5: Macroeconomics: Policies and Forecasts

The chapters in this section focus on macroeconomic issues such as inflation, unemployment, government stabilization policy, and economic forecasts.

Part 6: Foreign Policy and Economic Development

Rogge's writing in this section includes several pieces on economic development that effectively argue against the prevailing view at the time of writing, which is still popular today: that underdeveloped economies require government planning if they are to develop.

Benjamin A. Rogge (1920-1980) was Distinguished Professor of Political Economy at Wabash College. He was also the author of *Can Capitalism Survive?*, published by Liberty Fund.

Dwight R. Lee is William J. O'Neil Professor of Global Markets and Freedom at Southern Methodist University's Cox School of Business.

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